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REMARKS

This Request for Reconsideration is being filed to accompany a Request for Continued Examination filed on even date herewith. For the following reasons, this application should be considered in condition for allowance and the case passed to issue.

Claims 1-7 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Ohtsuji et al. (hereinafter "Ohtsuji"). This rejection is hereby traversed and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are respectfully requested. The following is a comparison of the present invention with the Ohtsuji reference.

Claim 1 provides an information providing apparatus for a vehicle. The apparatus includes an off-vehicle information storage device in which a plurality of different types of information to be provided to plurality of on-vehicle apparatuses (via a telephone line) are stored. An interactive voice response device allows a user to customize audio guidance used in a subsequent dialogue with the user through an automatic voice response via the telephone line. An information acquisition device obtains information from the off-vehicle information storage device based upon a dialogue between the user and the interactive voice response device. The information transmission device is configured to transmit the information obtained by the information acquisition device to for at least one of the plurality of on-vehicle apparatuses.

In the present invention, the user customizes the audio guidance. Hence, the user is able to configure the audio guidance through the use of the interactive voice response device. Hence, a user will customize audio guidance with the interactive voice response device, so that the guidance is provided in a subsequent dialogue with the user through an automatic voice

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response. Ohtsuji fails to disclose these features, and the section is pointed out by the Examiner does not identically disclose these features.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner states that "Ohtsuji discloses an audio interactive navigation system (see Abstract) in which car terminal device (100) connected to a mike (101) for realizing voice input, a speaker (102), for outputting voice. These devices provided to allow users to customize the audio guidance used in a subsequent dialogue with the user through an automatic voice response via the telephone line (Ohtsuji, Fig. 1; page 5, paragraph 0085)."

Applicant does not dispute that Ohtsuji discloses a mike 101 a car terminal device 100, a communication device 111, and an audio interactive server 105 connected to the communication device 111 by a telephone line. However, Ohtsuji provides no disclosure whatsoever of a user customizing an audio guidance and certainly not that of customization by an interactive voice response device.

The Examiner refers to page 5, paragraph 0085, for disclosing the user being allowed to customize the audio guidance used in the subsequent dialogue with the user to an automatic voice response via the telephone line. In its entirety, paragraph 0085 states as follows:

an In the latter case, it is desirable to switch the voice output subject using the interactive contents executed between the car terminal device 100 and the audio interactive server 105 and data transferred between them as it is triggered. For example, the voice output "What?" may be switched to internal voice data output after the car terminal device 100 confirms that the first connection request is established and the last voice output "Search. Wait a moment" may be automatically switched to an internal voice output after the car terminal device 100 detects an interaction of "setting end or not".

It is impossible to see how paragraph 0085, quoted above, clearly and unambiguously discloses an interactive voice response device that allows the user to customize the audio

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guidance used in a subsequent dialogue with the user through the automatic voice response.

There is no description of the user customizing the audio guidance. The Examiner is requested to specifically point out the precise language in Ohtsuji that describes the user customizing audio guidance. And further, the Examiner is requested to point out in Ohtsuji the precise language describing the user customizing the audio guidance through the use of the interactive voice response device. It is respectfully submitted that such language does not appear in Ohtsuji. While Ohtsuji has a mike, a car terminal device, a telephone line and audio interactive server, there is no disclosure of customization of audio guidance by a user, nor the customization through an interactive voice response device.

Since Ohtsuji fails to disclose identically each and every element of the claimed invention within the intent of 35 U.S.C. §102, claims 1-7 should be considered allowable over the Ohtsuji reference. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) are therefore respectfully requested.

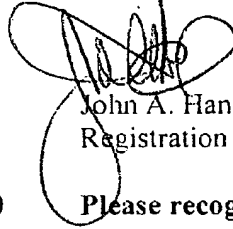
In light of the remarks provided, this application should be considered in condition for allowance and the case passed to issue. If you have any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite the prosecution of the application

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502624 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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